

IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-referenced application:

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1. (Currently Amended) A computerized method for processing of start-conditions processed by a computer ~~systems~~ system acting as a Workflow-Management-System (WFMS) or a computer system with comparable functionality,

said ~~WFMS~~ WFMS comprising at least one process-model, said process-model modeling a process comprising one or more process-activities being nodes of an arbitrary graph and directed control-connectors of said graph defining a potential control flow within said process-model; and

31 said method evaluating, if a target-activity representing a work item of said process may be started, by evaluating the truth-value of a start-condition once ~~the~~ truth-values of all incoming control-connectors of said target-activity have been posted;

and said method being further characterized by

comprising a timed-evaluation-step, said timed-evaluation step evaluating,

if at least a first one of said incoming control-connectors is associated with a time-interval, and

if said time-interval has been met,

and, in the affirmative case, said timed-evaluation-step is continuing the processing to start said target-activity even if not all truth-values of said incoming control-connectors have been posted yet,

if the truth-value of said first incoming control-connector has been posted, and

if said truth-value evaluates to TRUE.

2. (Previously Amended) A method for processing of start-conditions according to claim 1,

wherein said first incoming control-connector is associated with a commencing-activity, the commencing-activity corresponding to one of the process-activities in the process model, and

wherein said timed-evaluation-step uses as a starting point for said time-interval the point in time when said commencing-activity is completed.

3. (Previously Amended) A method for processing of start-conditions according to claim 2,

wherein said first incoming control-connector is associated with a path from said commencing-activity to said target-activity, and

said timed-evaluation-step is continuing the processing to start said target-activity, if said associated path has been traversed.

4. (Currently Amended) A system comprising means adapted for carrying out the steps of the method according to ~~anyone~~ any one of the preceding claims 1 to 3.

5. (Currently Amended) A data processing program for execution in a data processing system comprising software code portions for performing a method according to ~~anyone~~ any one of the preceding claims 1 to 3.

6. (Currently Amended) A computer program product stored on a computer usable medium, comprising computer readable program means for causing a computer to perform a method according to ~~anyone~~ any one of the preceding claims 1 to 3.

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